

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 796  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
USMISSION BERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, RO, BU  
SUBJ: JOINT ROMANIAN-BULGARIAN PROJECT ON DANUBE  
INAUGURATED

1. AMID MUCH POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE, CEAUSESCU AND ZHIVKOV  
DECEMBER 10 INAUGURATED CONSTRUCTION OF JOINT ROMANIAN-  
BULGARIAN HEAVY MACHINE EQUIPMENT PLANT AT GIURGIU AND  
RUSE, ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF DANUBE. HEAVY ROMANIAN MEDIA  
COVERAGE AND SOMEWHAT EXAGGERATED CEREMONEY CONNECTED WITH  
INAUGURAL SERVE ONCE AGAIN TO HIGHLIGHT ANOMOLY OF  
APPARENT GOOD RELATIONS ENJOYED BY TWO LEADERS,  
IN SPITE OF SOME RATHER FUNDAMENTAL POLICY DIFFERENCES  
WHICH THEIR REMARKS DID NOTHING TO HIDE.

2. CEAUSESCU NEGLECTED TO MENTION THE SOVIETS AND  
PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM, BUT SPOKE OF BALKAN  
COOPERATION AND ENUMERATED HIS WELL-KNOWN PRINCIPLES.  
FOLLOWING DAY'S SCINTEIA COMMENTARY BY FOREIGN EDITOR  
CAPLESCU CITED PRINCIPLES AND CALLED THEM "THE  
IMMUTABLE BASE OF ROMANIAN RELATIONS WITH ALL

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SOCIALIST STATES."

3. ZHIVKOV, ON THE OTHER HAND, PRAISED "OUR SOVIET BROTHERS", SAID NOT ONE WORD ABOUT BALKAN COOPERATION AND DWELT ON IMPORTANCE OF "IDEOLOGICAL UNITY, SPIRITUAL CLLSSENES, COMMON AIMS AND THE MERGING OF WILLS."  
(COMMENT: SEVERAL WESTERN AMBASSADORS HAVE SPECULATED THAT BULGARIAN ENTHUSIASM FOR BILATERAL PROJECTS MAY DERIVE AS MUCH FROM DISLIKE OF BALKAN MULTILATERAL ONES, AS ANYTHING ELSE.) EVEN MORE POINTED AND OBJECTIONABLE TO ROMANIANS MUST HAVE BEEN ZHIVKOV'S REFERENCE TO HELSINKI AS AFFIRMING "INCONTESTABLY" THE "LENINIST PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE BETWEEN STATES WITH DIFFERENT SOCIAL ORDERS." PRIME AIM OF GOR'S HELSINKI POLICY IS THAT FINAL ACT APPLIES TO ALL STATES, REGARDLESS OF SOCIAL SYSTEM, THEREBY VITIATING BREZHNEV DOCTRINE, WHICH BULGARIAN LEADER PRACTICALLY REAFFIRMS IN HIS REMARKS.

4. COMMENT: ZHIVKOV'S REMARK THAT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CAPITALISM AND SOCIALISM IS REFLECTED IN PEACEFUL BORDERS BETWEEN ROMANIA AND BULGARIA AS OPPOSED TO "BARBED WIRE AND MINES" ELSEWHERE BRINGS TO MIND COMMENT MADE RECENTLY BY PCR SECRETARY CORNEL BURTICA TO AMBSSADOR. BURTICA NOTED THAT RECENTLY CEAUSESCU HAD COMPLAINED TO SOVIETS ABOUT EXISTENCE OF A BARBED WIRE FRONTIER BETWEEN THEM. SOVIETS PROMPTLY RETORTED THAT GOR SHOULD NOT CONSIDER THIS A DISCRIMINATING ACT SINCE THEY HAD FENCES WITH ALL OF THEIR NEIGHBORS.  
BARNES

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**TAGS:** PFOR, ECRE, RO, BU, (ZHIVKOV, TODOR), (CEAUSESCU, NICOLAE)  
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